

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15

SAJ-01 ACDA-10 SAM-01 AID-05 /095 W

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R 051654Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2990

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

USLO PEKING

CINCPAC

UNCLAS MOSCOW 10984

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UR,US, LA

SUBJECT: PRAVDA SUPPORTS ANTI-U.S. ACTIONS IN LAOS

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

1. SUMMARY. A PRAVDA COMMENTARY WELCOMES RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN LAOS, SPECIFICALLY INCLUDING THE MOVES TO OUST U.S. ORGANIZATIONS. THIS FURTHERS THE STRUGGLE FOR SELF-DETERMINATION, SAYS PRAVDA. END SUMMARY.

2. THE AUGUST 5 COMMENTARY, CALLED "THE DEEPENING OF THE PROCESS," IS BY ONE OF PRAVDA'S REGULAR SOUTHEAST ASIA COMMENTATORS, ALEKSANDR SERBIN. IT OUTLINES THE 1973 AGREEMENT ON LAOS SETTING OUT SEPARATE FORCES, AREAS OF CONTROL AND THE NEUTRALIZATION OF VIENTIANE AND LUANG PRABANG. THIS AGREEMENT, SAYS PRAVDA, VIRTUALLY ELIMINATED THE THREATS FROM THE RIGHTISTS. BUT IN MAY OF THIS YEAR, IN COLLUSION WITH "IMPERIALISTS", THEY  
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SOUGHT TO STRENGTHEN THEIR POSITION, BUT FAILED AND FLED.

THEN BEGAN A PROCESS OF "POSITIVE CHANGES" IN THE MILITARY AND ADMINISTRATIVE APPARATUS OF THE VIENTIANE SIDE, SAYS PRAVDA, INCLUDING THE DISBANDING OF THE "TERRORIST" SPECIAL FORCES FORMED BY THE CIA. THE ACTIVITIES OF AMERICAN ORGANIZATIONS OPERATING ON THE VIENTIANE SIDE DURING THE WAR WERE REEXAMINED. CIA-BACKED AGENCIES WERE ELIMINATED, SAYS PRAVDA AND THE U.S. AID MISSION CLOSED DOWN. "THE LAOTIAN PEOPLE FOUGHT LONG AND HARD FOR THEIR RIGHT TO DECIDE THEIR OWN FATE," PRAVDA CONCLUDES, AND THEIR ACTION FITS WITH THE LINE WHICH HAS DEVELOPED THROUGHOUT INDOCHINA.

3. COMMENT: THIS COMMENTARY FOLLOWS EARLIER SOVIET MEDIA RATIONALIZATIONS OF THE LEFTIST SUCCESSES IN LAOS, BUT IS FAR MORE EXPLICIT IN ENDORSING THE ACTIONS REDUCING OR ELIMINATING THE U.S. OFFICIAL PRESENCE THERE. IT IS ESPECIALLY NOTEWORTHY IN LIGHT OF RECENT CALLS IN THE SOVIET PRESS FOR THE REMOVAL OF U.S. BASES FROM THAILAND AND THE PHILIPPINES AND IS IN LINE WITH OTHER RECENT SOVIET MOVES TO EXPAND THEIR INFLUENCE IN SOUTHEAST ASIA. STOESSEL

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